

CHELMSFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER No.219

May 1984

NEXT MEETING

On May 1st our Chairman Dick Brocks G3WHR is going to give us a talk about High Power RF Transistors. Dick is an expert in this field and the evening promises to be very interesting. Venue is the Marconi College, Arbour Lane Chelmsford at 7.30pm.

LAST MONTHS MEETING - Malcolm G6ADP

Last months meeting was notable in two ways. One was in the way that it was arranged and the other in the interest generated by our Guest, Steve Oakman, G8MRO, who is known to many of us working at the "Big M", as the company liason engineer for Marconi Instruments, and is often to be seen around the different establishments. Those of us on the committee who often see him in this way, collaborated in a plot to fool him into thinking he had offered to give us a talk. Our confidence was well founded, and we were kept interested with a varied description of the origins of the company, firstly with the E.K.Cole Company in Southend before wartime dangers caused the move to safer lands in St.Albans. Steve had brought along several items from these early days, housed in beautiful old polished wooden cases and provided a light hearted quiz on the identity of various items, with the reward of pens, pads and booklets as prizes. We were brought up to date with a short slide show, before being given a demonstration and discussion about some of the latest equipment. Our thanks go to Steve for agreeing to succumb to trickery and in giving us a most entertaining and informative evening.

COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, May 9th, Marconi Residence, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford 7.30pm in the bar.

MEETINGS TO COME

June - Constructors Competition, valuable prizes.
July or August - "Home Brew" The liquid variety!
September - RTTY, Amtor and Packet Radio.

THE G4VF PROJECT - ROY G3PMX

To celebrate the 90th birthday of Ron Ferguson G4VF, two parties were recently held at his QTH, the first was the traditional family affair for relatives from far and near, the second was a working party of 12 able-bodied members from C.A.R.S. who assembled on the afternoon of Saturday 7th April to rebuild his antenna system which had suffered from the ravages of the recent gales. The idea, proposed by Jim G6ZC, was for the Society to present to Ron a new antenna system as a mark of appreciation for his devoted service to our Society for so many years. Editorial space alone must limit this report on the happy event, suffice to say that Ron now has at his disposal dipoles for 160, 80 and 40 metres and a three element tri-band rotating beam for 20, 15 and 10 metres. Our thanks are extended to Mrs Ferguson for enduring our antics and for her hospitality in providing the beer and constant refreshments.

HF NFD

Wanted - a twin burner portable gas stove for the refreshment of the operators and helpers, if you have one, would you be prepared to loan it for this event? or do you know of one for sale? (the club are prepared to purchase). If you can help, please contact Dick G3WHR.

VHF NFD

It is with regret, that, despite a sterling effort by John G8MKX, our participation in VHF NFD in July will have to be cancelled due to lack of support. Perhaps next year.....??

RSGB REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Members may have seen from the latest Radio Communication that an election is due for the Regional Representative of Region 16. Les Turner G4CUT, who at present is our Area Representative has been nominated and has agreed to stand for election. Nomination forms have been sent to the RSGB and therefore Ballot papers will be issued in a future issue of Radio Communication. The Committee urge all members to use their vote wisely and nearer the time arrangements will be made to collect all ballot forms from members and submit them en-bloc to the RSGB. It would also be helpful if members could mention the fact that Les is standing for election to other non-club members, so that he obtains maximum support in the voting.

RSGB EXHIBITION, NEC BIRMINGHAM

Just a short note to remind members going to Birmingham, that the coach will leave Writtle Duck Pond at 8.00am on Saturday April 28th. Have a good day!

HERE AND THERE - ELA G6HKM

The new "World wide locator system" (Maidenhead) will become operational on 1st January 1985, for more information see Rad.Comm. Nov. 1980 pages 1160-1163 and April 1984 page 318. I have computed the QTH de G3PMX/G6HKM will be J001FT, what is your's? This system is already in use in many countries and is exchanged on contacts via Oscar 10. I have already received several QSL's which give both the old and new locators. Whilst talking about squares I have just had my RSGB 60 squares/15 countries award for 2m updated to 80/18 and I am well on the way to the 100/20. Only a few more weeks to go and 2m and 70cms should come to life again with some good TROPO and SPORADIC E.

It is hoped to have an amateur aboard two more shuttle missions, Nov. 1984 and March 1985, lets hope it will not be such a fiasco as last time. On future missions it is hoped to use 28MHz as well as 144MHz FM to provide world wide coverage.

I was very disappointed at the lack of activity on "World Radio Amateur Day", perhaps everybody decided to stay off the air for the day! listening to the airwaves the next day many people did not seem to know anything about it, but it was in Rad.Comm. and also on the RSGB Sunday news broadcast, this is well worth listening to and not depressing like the national media news!

SUNDRY LITERATURE

The secretary and members of the committee occasionally receive literature of general interest from other clubs, suppliers, etc. A few months ago it was agreed to put these items in a folder to be passed round at the meetings to enable all members to benefit from the information, however, it is evident from comments received that the folder does not always fully circulate and it is impractical for the committee to ensure that all members have seen it. In addition members may have items of general interest but do not know how to include them in the folder. For this reason it has been decided to discontinue the folder and arrange for a portable notice board to be displayed at each meeting. If you have any items of general interest (including small ads:) please bring them along and pin them on the board.

FINALE

I hope you have enjoyed this newsletter, with its four contributors. It is so much more interesting to have different styles of writing. All contributions for future editions will be most welcome.

73,
Andrew.

Witham 512316 (Day)
Silver End 83094 (any other time)

9, Abraham Drive,
Silver End, Witham.

FOR SALE

Camera equipment, OLYMPUS OM10 SLR camera body only, very good condition, boxed £40. Manual adapter for OLYMPUS OM10, boxed £5.

Contact Roy G3PMX or Ela G6HKM, Chelmsford 360545.